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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Walgreens Teams Up with National Nonprofit Giving Support in MA and RI Stores**

AVON, CT (Feb. 2, 2018) – Walgreens stores across MA and RI have participated in a Scannable Event in support of the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome (CdLS) Foundation. During the first two weeks of October, 95 Walgreens stores throughout MA and RI encouraged customers to purchase a scannable icon in donation amounts of \$1, \$3, or \$5.

After two weeks of fundraising, \$37,496 was raised for the CdLS Foundation.

Mike Christie, Director of Pharmacy and Retail Operations at Walgreens, commented, “Most people have not heard of CdLS, so we knew it was important to not only raise money but awareness of the syndrome that affects thousands of children and families. The folks at our stores were so proud that because of their efforts, families could get services they need, such as going to medical clinics that specialize in treating children with CdLS. The health and happiness of our community is what Walgreens is all about and we are so glad to make a difference.”

The funds will support the programs and services provided by the CdLS Foundation, including multidisciplinary clinics, family support phone lines and awareness activities nationwide.

“We’re very happy to announce this partnership with Walgreens, especially with many of our families in New England,” said Bonnie Royster, CdLS Foundation Executive Director. “We look forward to creating more opportunities for families to connect with one another and medical professionals around the country thanks to Walgreens’ support.”

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### *About Cornelia de Lange Syndrome*

An estimated 20,000 people in the U.S. have CdLS but remain undiagnosed and/or without support services. Individuals with CdLS range from mildly to severely affected, though most have similar physical characteristics including small size, hands and feet; thin eyebrows that meet in the middle; long eyelashes; upturned nose; and thin, downturned lips. Some individuals have limb differences, including missing fingers or arms. Common medical problems include GERD, bowel obstruction, and congenital heart defects.

### *About the Foundation*

Founded in 1981, the Cornelia de Lange Syndrome Foundation is a family support organization that exists to ensure early and accurate diagnosis of CdLS, promote research into the causes and manifestations of the syndrome, and help people with a diagnosis of CdLS and their families make informed decisions throughout their lifetime.



